



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 20, 2003

WICHITA, KANSAS MAN SENTENCED FOR BANK ROBBERY

WICHITA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that James Monroe Morris, 54, Wichita, Kansas, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Wesley E. Brown to **seven years and eight months in federal prison, without parole, to be followed by three years of supervised release.**

Melgren said that Morris entered a guilty plea on July 21, 2003, to one count of bank robbery of the Home Bank and Trust, 10421 W. Central, Wichita, Kansas, on March 31, 2003. Morris admitted at his plea that he was the driver of the get-away car.

Co-defendant Quincy Darnell Blue, 30, Wichita, Kansas, was found guilty on August 6, 2003, following a two day jury trial of one count of bank robbery and one count of carrying a gun during a bank robbery.

Melgren said that according to trial testimony on March 31, 2003, at approximately 3:30 p.m., Blue entered the Home Bank and Trust, 10421 W. Central, Wichita, Kansas, wearing a dark mask and carrying a handgun. Blue placed a plastic bag on the teller counter and demanded money. The teller complied with the demand. Blue took the money, left the bank, and was driven away in a blue Buick Regal. A witness saw two men get out of the Buick Regal and into a Cadillac. The Cadillac was stopped by Wichita Police Department officers and Blue, along with James Monroe Morris, the driver of the car, were arrested.

Blue faces a maximum of twenty-five years in federal prison, without parole, for bank robbery and faces up to life imprisonment for carrying a handgun during a bank robbery. Sentencing is set for November 3, 2003.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Wichita Police Department and the FBI in this investigation.